

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 PRS-01 PA-01 SAB-01 /086 W

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R 151605Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 660

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 2355

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECIN XM HA

SUBJ: HAITIAN PARTICIPATION IN SELA MEETINGS

REF: A. PAUP 2006; B. PANAMA 4720; C. PAUP 1907; D. STATE 126782

1. UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GERARD DORCELY CALLED IN CHARGE SEPTEMBER 12 AND ADVISED THAT HE (DORCELY) WOULD REPRESENT HAITI AT WORKING GROUP MEETING OF SELA (SISTEMA ECONOMICO LATIOMSAAMERICANO) NOW CONVENING IN PANAMA. TWO-MAN DELEGATION WOULD ALSO INCLUDE PIERRE-LOUIS SALOMON, MEMBER OF RECENTLY-FORMED ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION WHICH DORCELY HEADS. IF MEETING SHOULD BE PROLONGED, DORCELY DID NOT INTEND TO REMAIN PRESENT BEYOND SEPTEMBER 18 OR 19.

2. DORCELY REPEATED GOH'S REASONS FOR ATTITUDE OF PRUDENT RESERVE TOWARD SELAJ E.G. EXCLUSION OF US, POSSIBLE AURA OF CONFRONTATION AND HOSTILITY TOWARD US, RISK THAT ORGANIZATION WOULD OVERENTHUSIASTICALLY SPONSOR RE-ENTRY OF CUBA INTO ECONOMIC LIFE OF HEMISPHERE (REF A AND C). BUT HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT THE BEHAVIOR OF MANY DELEGATION AT PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL MEETING HE HAD ATTENDED (INCLUDING THAT OF THE CUBANS) AFFORDED SOME HOPE THAT SELA MIGHT

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DEVELOP SOME CONSTRUCTIVE ASPECTS. WHILE UNWILLING TO BE RAIL-

ROADED INTO ACT ANTI-US DEMONSTRATIONS, GOH DID NOT WISH TO
BE TOTALLY STAND-OFFISH TOWARD ANY POTENTIALLY
VIALE INTER-AMERICAN ORGANIZATION. AS AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING,
DORCELY EXPECTED TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE.

3. COMMENT: DORCELY'S REMARKS WERE PRESUMABLY INTENDED TO
HEDGE AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE UMBRAGE BY USG AT HAITI'S CONTINUING
PRESENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL PROCESS OF SELA. AS COMPARED WITH
FOREIGN SECRETARY BRUTUS' TOTALLY SKEPTICAL OBSERVATIONS (REF C),
HOWEVER, DORCELY PROJECTED A STRONGER ELEMENT OF "WAIT AND SEE".
THOMSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTA02355
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750319-0455
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750952/aaaabtqz.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PORT AU PRINCE 2006, 75 PANAMA 4720, 75 PORT AU PRINCE 1907, 75 STATE 126782
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HAITIAN PARTICIPATION IN SELA MEETINGS
TAGS: ECIN, XM, HA, SELA, (DORCELY, GERARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006